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NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Border Patrol Seizes 532 Pounds of Marijuana *More than \$1 million worth seized this week*

San Diego, Calif. — U.S. Border Patrol agents seized over 532 pounds of marijuana, valued at more than \$410,000, in separate incidents yesterday.

Early yesterday morning, agents working near the Tecate port of entry followed footprints leading from the U.S. border to a storage container. Inside, four military-style backpacks with a total of 201 pounds of marijuana, and an estimated street value of \$160,800, were discovered. No arrests were made, and agents noted that the trail of footprints led back into Mexico.

Agents working near Boulevard at about 9 A.M. tracked and apprehended four men who had just crossed the U.S. border in a remote area, each carrying a military-style backpack. Twenty-eight bundles of marijuana with a total weight of over 275 pounds, and an estimated street value of \$230,400 were seized. The men, all Mexican nationals, are being held for prosecution.

A few hours later, agents working near the San Clemente checkpoint observed a suspicious vehicle and performed a vehicle stop. The driver, a Mexican national, lacked proper immigration documents, and was arrested. A check of the vehicle by a Border Patrol drug-sniffing dog revealed over 55 pounds of marijuana, with an estimated street value of over \$19,000, hidden in a concealed compartment.

These seizures follow the discovery of 827 pound of marijuana on Tuesday by agents working at the Temecula Checkpoint, making the total estimated value of this week's seizures over \$1 million.

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